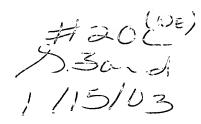
CKET NO. 9545-013-27



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Aaron ABBOTT, et al.

ART UNIT:

2142

SERIAL NO.:

09/220,724

EXAMINER: PRIETO, B.

FILING DATE: December 24, 1998

FOR:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR HIERARCHICAL SOFTWARE

DISTRIBUTION PACKAGES

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

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Technology Center 2100

In reply to the Office Action dated July 12, 2002, Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 8, and 9 as follows:

- 1. (Twice Amended) Apparatus for hierarchical software distribution allowing distribution of a software package comprising at least a first and second package to a plurality of target nodes, wherein the contents of said first and second package are determined by a distribution server before the contents are distributed without the plurality of target nodes initiating the distribution, said apparatus comprising:
 - a distribution node for transmitting packages of software;
- a first branch node in communication with said distribution node, said first branch node being arranged to receive said software package from said distribution node;

